UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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EXAMINER
MEHRPOUR, NAGHMEH

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *21 December 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-32* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-8,12-16,31 and 32* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *3, 0-11, 17-30* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this
Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -
(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21 (2) of such treaty in the English language.

1.   ***Claims 1,2, 4-8,12-16 and 31-32*** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as

being anticipated by Egan, US 6,937,572.

Regarding claim 1, Egan discloses an apparatus for tracing a GTP

resource, comprising:

a call tracing unit which receives a call tracing command from an operator through an

MMI and performs a call tracing function in response (col. 3,lines 10-20);

a call tracing DB which stores call-tracing data currently processed (col. 3,lines 46-52

and col. 4,lines 8-24); a GTP-U tracing unit which traces a GTP-U message and

reporting the GTP-U message to the call tracing unit (col. 3,lines 20-28);

a SGSN interface unit which receives the GTP-U message outputted from the SGSN;

and an internet interface unit which transmits the GTP-U message routed at the GTP-U

tracing unit to an internet network (col. 4,lines 25-38).

Regarding claim 2, Egan discloses the apparatus of claim 1, further

comprising: a call manager which sets a call for a subscriber, searches whether GTP-C

tracing function for the subscriber is set in the tracing information DB when receiving the

GTP-C, and transmits a corresponding GTP resource information to the call tracing unit

when the corresponding GTP-C tracing function is set (col. 4, lines 4-24).

Regarding claim 4, Egan discloses a method for tracing a GTP resource, comprising:

setting a tracing function for at least one reserved resource of a GTP-U by using a TEID

for a subscriber to be traced; and outputting information for the reserved resource by

detecting the GTP-U having the tracing function set therein (col. 3,lines 5-61).

Regarding claim 5, Egan discloses the method of claim 4, wherein setting

the tracing function comprises: receiving tracing information for the subscriber from an

operator; mapping the TEID allotted to the subscriber using the tracing information; and

registering the tracing function of the GTP-U using the TEID; and storing the TEID

together with the tracing information to a tracing information DB (col. 3,lines 5-61).

Regarding claim 6, Egan discloses the method of claim 5, wherein the

tracing information includes at least one of an IMSI and an IP address of the

subscriber (page 2 [0024-0025], page 3 [0030-0031,0036] and page 4 [0039,0046]) (col. 3,lines 5-61).

Regarding claim 7, Egan discloses the method of claim 6, wherein the tracing information comprises a predetermined number of bits indicating a SGSN record type and a tracing type for classifying call watching, call tracing, and the user message tracing according to the SGSN record type (col. 3,lines 5-61).

Regarding claim 8, Egan discloses the method of claim 5, wherein the tracing information DB stores the tracing information, the TEID, and a trace count value notifying the number of the traced message (col. 3,lines 5-61).

Regarding claim 12, discloses the method of claim 4, further comprising: operating a timer corresponding to a tracing function the duration when the tracing information includes information of the tracing function duration (col. 3,lines 5-61).

Regarding claim 13, discloses the method of claim 12, further comprising: of canceling the GTP-U tracing function by deleting the TEID and the tracing information from the tracing information DB when the timer is terminated (col. 3,line 66 to col. 4,line 3).

Regarding claim 14, discloses the method of claim 4, further comprising: canceling the GTP-U tracing function when the subscriber call is canceled (col. 3,line 62 to col. 4,line

3).

Regarding claim 15, discloses the method of claim 14, wherein canceling the GTP-U

tracing function comprises: transmitting a session termination signal including an

identification information of subscriber whose call is cancelled; and

canceling the GTP-U tracing function by deleting the TEID and the tracing information

from the tracing information DB using the identification information (col. 3,line 62 to col.

4,line 3).

Regarding claim 16, discloses a method for tracing a GTP resource, the

GTP trafficked between a SGSN and a GGSN at an exchanger including the SGSN and

the GGSN having a call tracing unit, a call manager, a tracing information DB, and GTP-

U tracing unit, said method comprising: setting a tracing function for reserved resource

of a GTP-U using TEID of a subscriber to be traced; detecting the GTP-U having the

tracing function set therein; and outputting information for the reserved resource of the

GTP-U message (page 2 [0024-0025], page 3 [0030-0031,0036] and page 4

[0039,0046]).

Regarding claim 31, Egan discloses the method of claim 16, further

comprising: call tracing unit canceling the GTP-U tracing function when the call of the

subscriber is canceled(page 2 [0024-0025], page 3 [0030-0031,0036] and page 4

[0039,0046]).

Regarding claim 32, Egan discloses the method of claim 31, wherein

canceling the GTP-U tracing function comprises: transmitting a session termination

signal having an identification information of the subscriber whose call is canceled from

the call manager to the call tracing unit; and canceling the GTP-U tracing function by

deleting the TEID and the tracing information from the tracing information DB using the

identification information at the call tracing unit (col. 3,line 62 to col. 4,line 3).

Allowable Subject Matter

2.   **Claims 3,9-11 and 17-30** objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base

claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the

limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments filed 12/21/07 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

In response to the applicant's argument that *"Egan does not disclose a system wherein a*

GTP-U tracing unit which traces a GTP-U message and reporting the GTP-U message to the

call tracing unit"

The Examiner asserts that Egan teaches a system providing call trace information

about a caller's end-point device that communicates on a packet switched

network. The end-point device may be a voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)

device, which operates using voice that is packetized in accordance with Internet

Protocol (IP) and transmitted over the Internet.

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain

features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies

(what is written in specification) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the

claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are

not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed.

Cir. 1993).

Conclusion

4.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5.   **Any responses to this action should be mailed to:**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Naghmeh Mehrpour whose telephone number is 571-

272-7913. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00- 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Dwayne Bost can be reached (571) 272-7023.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding

is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Naghmeh Mehrpour/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2617

Feb 5, 2008